Message Text

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FOLTEL SENT ACTION USS JOHN F. KENNEDY INFO CAIRO, NAVSUPPACT NAPLES, CTF SIX ZERO, CTG SIX ZERO PT ONE, CINCUSNAVEUR AND COMSIXTHFLT FROM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA MAR 29 RPTED FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L ALEXANDRIA 0236

CAIRO FOR ALUSNA

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: MARR, EG

SUBJECT: SECURITY RESTRICTIONS AT ALEXANDRIA

REF: USDAO CAIRO 281327Z MAR 77

- 1. PARA 6(C) REFTEL HIGHLIGHTS HIGH LEVEL OF EGYPTIAN SECURITY CONCERNS. IN THIS CONNECTION, CONGEN REQUESTS SHIP COMMAND RE-EMPHASIZE IN PRE-VISIT CREW INDOCTRINATION CAUTION IN USE OF CAMERAS.
- 2. FISHING (YACHT) HARBOR, WHERE FLEET LANDING WILL BE, SHOULD NOT BE PHOTOGRAPHED. FYI HEADLAND FORMING SOUTHEAST CORNER OF HARBOR IS HIGHLY VISIBLE SAM SITE END FYI. OTHER AREAS NEAR RAIL, RADIO, POWER STATIONS, OIL REFINERIES AND SIMILAR INSTALLATIONS ARE USUALLY POSTED "NO PHOTOGRAPHS", BUT SOME APPARENTLY INNOCENT AREAS MAY ALSO BE SENSITIVE. RECENTLY FIVE USN VISITORS TO CAIRO WERE HELD FOR INVESTIGATION SEVERAL HOURS WHEN OBSERVED TAKING CONFIDENTIAL

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PICTURES FROM CAR, EVEN THOUGH CAMERA TARGET WAS ONLY DISTANT VIEW OF PYRAMIDS.

3. IN ADDITION TO SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS, EGYPTIAN ARE SENSITIVE TO TOURISTS PHOTOGRAPHING EVIDENCES OF POVERTY AND DECAY. ONE AMERICAN VISITOR WAS HELD SEVERAL HOURS AFTER TRYING TO PHOTOGRAPH AN APPEALING STREET URCHIN SELLING FRUIT. ANOTHER WAS DETAINED FOR

OVER AN HOUR AFTER TRYING TO PHOTOGRAPH COLORFUL STREET SCENE WHICH TURNED OUT TO INCLUDE LOCAL HEADQUARTERS OF ARAB LEAGUE.

4. BEST ADVISE IS TO LIMIT PHOTOGRAPHY TO GENUINE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS AND, WHEN PHOTOGRAPHING COMPANIONS OR NEW FRIENDS ASHORE, TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT THE BACKGROUND BEFORE RAISING THE CAMERA TO MAKE SURE WHAT'S THERE IS NEUTRAL OR INNOCUOUS. CHASE

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